



Maura Healey, Governor
Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor
Monica Tibbitts-Nutt, Secretary & CEO
Phillip Eng, General Manager & CEO



**MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MEETING OF THE SAFETY, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

September 18, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

**10 Park Plaza, 2nd Floor Board Room, Suite 2890
Boston, MA 02116**

This meeting was broadcast virtually.

BOARD MEMBERS Chair Peter Koutoujian, Director Robert Butler, Director
PARTICIPATING IN- Thomas McGee
PERSON:

PRESENTERS Chief Safety Officer Tim Lesniak, Chief of Quality,
PARTICIPATING: Compliance, and Oversight Meredith Sandberg

OTHER PRESENT: Counsel- Corporate Governance Noah Potash

Call to Order

Chair Koutoujian called the meeting of the Massachusetts Bay
Transportation Authority ("MBTA") Safety Subcommittee to order at 11:00 a.m.
Noah Potash called the roll of the Members participating, being a quorum of the
MBTA's Safety, Health, and Environment Subcommittee:

Chair Koutoujian	Present
Director Butler	Present
Director McGee	Present

Chair Koutoujian turned to the approval of the minutes of the July 17, 2025
meeting.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call VOTED:

Chair Koutoujian	Yes
Director Butler	Yes
Director McGee	Yes

to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2025 Meeting of the Safety,

Health, and Environment Subcommittee.

Presentations and Discussion

For Agenda Item 1, Chief Safety Officer Tim Lesniak presented the Safety Program Update, noting that process changes had been made to enable safety performance indicators to be presented closer to real time. He noted that targets were largely met on the Blue, Orange, and Red Lines, with the exception of a handful of collisions and explained that the Green Line saw higher collision rates largely due to street-running trains. Mr. Lesniak said that Bus had met all targets for May through July, but that Commuter Rail had experienced collisions and security events, and Ferry had reported a collision with a dock. He said that there were no further safety incidents to report.

Mr. Lesniak discussed the “See Tracks, Think Train” awareness event, in partnership with Operation Lifesaver, railroads, and federal safety agencies. Chair Koutoujian asked if the displays were on billboards or social media and Mr. Lesniak said that they are shown on both. Chair Koutoujian asked about a recent incident of a passenger-on-passenger assault on a Route 28 bus. Mr. Lesniak said that although a Transit Police investigation is underway, the incident is included in the Safety Department’s metrics and commended the fast response by the Transit Police to arrest the aggressor. He also praised reports from the public and cited the “See Something, Say Something” app. Chair Koutoujian asked if the General Manager had made a statement and Mr. Lesniak said that he had. Director Butler asked about smoke and fire incidents and Mr. Lesniak said that these ranged from lit cigarettes in trash cans to leaves on switch heaters. Chair Koutoujian and Mr. Lesniak discussed the impact of distractedness on vehicle collisions.

For Item 2, Chief of Quality, Compliance, and Oversight (“QCO”) Meredith Sandberg presented the Safety Management Inspection (“SMI”) update, beginning with a review of the FTA’s special directives, findings, and required actions and the MBTA’s 37 CAPs and 634 action items developed in response. She discussed the QCO office’s work to use the SMI as an opportunity to create real change, focusing on letting leadership set and manage priorities and building a workforce fit for purpose. She discussed the results, including a shift on safety culture, clear documentation, quality behaviors around documentation, and stakeholder engagement in the process. Ms. Sandberg said that project management was now more able to proactively address problems. She reviewed efforts to maintain momentum and achieve data-drive continuous improvements. She noted that overall process stands at 97% submitted, with fewer than 20 action items remaining to be submitted.

Director Butler said that he understands the gaps that had to be addressed and praised the work on the SMI response. Director McGee said that it was a good story and that real challenges had been addressed that would allow the organization to move forward proactively. Chair Koutoujian discussed the increase in reporting of matters and asked about completion of the remaining submittals. Ms. Sandberg discussed how rebuilding trust with the workforce has increased reporting and credited the work of the Safety Department. She said that the final submittal to the FTA was scheduled for the end of 2026. Chair Koutoujian and Ms. Sandberg discussed the significance of highlighted language in the appendix of the presentation.

With no further items on the agenda, Chair Koutoujian asked for a motion to adjourn.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call VOTED:

Chair Koutoujian	Yes
Director Butler	Yes
Director McGee	Yes

to adjourn at 11:32 p.m.

Documents relied upon for this meeting:

- September 18, 2025 MBTA Safety subcommittee Agenda
- Minutes of the July 17, 2025 Safety subcommittee meeting
- Safety Health and Environment Subcommittee Deck September 2025 Draft Final
- SHE_QCO Update Sept SHE 2025 Board